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NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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LAFACE RECORDS LLC; SONY BMG  
MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT; WARNER BROS.  
RECORDS INC.; UMG RECORDINGS, INC.;  
ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC.;  
and CAPITOL RECORDS, INC.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

**BZ**

LAFACE RECORDS LLC, a Delaware limited  
liability company; SONY BMG MUSIC  
ENTERTAINMENT, a Delaware general  
partnership; WARNER BROS. RECORDS INC., a  
Delaware corporation; UMG RECORDINGS, INC.,  
a Delaware corporation; ELEKTRA  
ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC., a Delaware  
corporation; and CAPITOL RECORDS, INC., a  
Delaware corporation,,

Plaintiff,

v.

JOHN DOE,

Defendant.

Case No. **08-1671**

**DECLARATION OF CARLOS  
LINARES IN SUPPORT OF EX PARTE  
APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO  
TAKE IMMEDIATE DISCOVERY**

1 I, Carlos Linares, have personal knowledge of the facts stated below and, under penalty  
2 of perjury, hereby declare:

3 1. I am Vice President, Anti-Piracy Legal Affairs for the Recording Industry  
4 Association of America, Inc. ("RIAA"), where I have been employed for over six years. My office is  
5 located at 1025 F Street, N.W., 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington, DC 20004. I submit this Declaration in  
6 support of Plaintiffs' *Ex Parte* Application for Leave to Take Immediate Discovery.

7 2. As Vice President, Anti-Piracy Legal Affairs, I am responsible for evaluating  
8 and contributing to online strategies for the RIAA, including oversight of the investigations into online  
9 infringement of copyrighted sound recordings. As such, this Declaration is based on my personal  
10 knowledge, and if called upon to do so, I would be prepared to testify as to its truth and accuracy.

11 **The RIAA's Role in Protecting Its Member Recording Industry Companies From Copyright**  
12 **Infringement**

13 3. The RIAA is a not-for-profit trade association whose member record companies  
14 create, manufacture, and/or distribute approximately ninety percent of all legitimate sound recordings  
15 produced and sold in the United States. The RIAA's member record companies comprise the most  
16 vibrant national music industry in the world. A critical part of the RIAA's mission is to assist its  
17 member companies in protecting their intellectual property in the United States and in fighting against  
18 online and other forms of piracy. All of the Plaintiffs in this action are members of the RIAA.

19 4. As part of that process, the RIAA, on behalf of its members, retains a variety of  
20 services from outside vendors to assist with its investigation of the unauthorized reproduction and  
21 distribution of copyrighted sound recordings online.

22 **The Internet and Music Piracy**

23 5. The Internet is a vast collection of interconnected computers and computer  
24 networks that communicate with each other. It allows hundreds of millions of people around the world  
25 to communicate freely and easily and to exchange ideas and information, including academic research,  
26 literary works, financial data, music, movies, graphics, and an unending and ever-changing array of  
27 other data. Unfortunately, the Internet also has afforded opportunities for the wide-scale piracy of  
28 copyrighted sound recordings and musical compositions. Once a sound recording has been

1 transformed into an unsecured digital format, it can be copied further and distributed an unlimited  
2 number of times over the Internet, without significant degradation in sound quality.

3           6. Much of the unlawful distribution of copyrighted sound recordings over the  
4 Internet occurs via "peer-to-peer" ("P2P") file copying networks or so-called online media distribution  
5 systems. The most notorious example of such a system was Napster, which was enjoined by a federal  
6 court. Notwithstanding the court's decision enjoining Napster, similar online media distribution  
7 systems emerged and attempted to capitalize on the growing illegal market that Napster fostered.  
8 These include KaZaA, eDonkey, iMesh, Ares, BitTorrent, DirectConnect, and Gnutella, among others.  
9 To this day, some P2P networks continue to operate and to facilitate widespread copyright piracy. At  
10 any given moment, millions of people illegally use online media distribution systems to upload or  
11 download copyrighted material.

12           7. P2P networks, at least in their most popular form, refer to computer systems or  
13 processes that enable Internet users to: (1) make files (including audio recordings) stored on a  
14 computer available for copying by other users; (2) search for files stored on other users' computers;  
15 and (3) transfer exact copies of files from one computer to another via the Internet. P2P networks  
16 enable users who otherwise would have no connection with, or knowledge of, each other to offer to  
17 each other for distribution and copying files off of their personal computers, to provide a sophisticated  
18 search mechanism by which users can locate these files for downloading, and to provide a means of  
19 effecting downloads.

20           8. The major record companies generally have not authorized their copyrighted  
21 sound recordings to be copied or distributed in unsecured formats by means of P2P networks. Thus,  
22 the vast majority of the content that is copied and distributed on P2P networks is unauthorized by the  
23 copyright owner – that is, the distribution violates the copyright laws.

24           9. The scope of online piracy of copyrighted works cannot be underestimated. The  
25 RIAA member companies lose significant revenues on an annual basis due to the millions of  
26 unauthorized downloads and uploads of well-known recordings that are distributed on P2P networks  
27 by infringers who, in virtually all cases, have the ability to maintain their anonymity to all but the  
28 Internet Service Provider ("ISP") they use to supply them with access to the Internet.



1           10. The persons who commit infringements by using the P2P networks are, by and  
2 large, anonymous to Plaintiffs. A person who logs on to a P2P network is free to use any alias (or  
3 computer name) whatsoever, without revealing his or her true identity to other users. Thus, Plaintiffs  
4 can observe the infringement occurring on the Internet, but do not know the true names or mailing  
5 addresses of those individuals who are committing the infringement.

6                           **The RIAA's Identification of Copyright Infringers**

7           11. In order to assist its members in combating copyright piracy, the RIAA retained  
8 a third-party investigator, MediaSentry, Inc. ("MediaSentry"), to conduct searches of the Internet, as  
9 well as file-copying services, for infringing copies of sound recordings whose copyrights are owned by  
10 RIAA members. A search can be as simple as logging onto a P2P network and examining what files  
11 are being offered by others logged onto the network. In gathering evidence of copyright infringement,  
12 MediaSentry uses the same functionalities that are built into P2P programs that any user of the  
13 software can use on the network.

14           12. Users of P2P networks who distribute files over a network can be identified by  
15 using Internet Protocol ("IP") addresses because the unique IP address of the computer offering the  
16 files for distribution can be captured by another user during a search or a file transfer. Users of P2P  
17 networks can be identified by their IP addresses because each computer or network device (such as a  
18 router) that connects to a P2P network must have a unique IP address within the Internet to deliver files  
19 from one computer or network device to another. Two computers cannot effectively function if they  
20 are connected to the Internet with the same IP address at the same time. This is analogous to the  
21 telephone system where each location has a unique number. For example, in a particular home, there  
22 may be three or four different telephones, but only one call can be placed at a time to or from that  
23 home. Each computer or network device is connected to a network that is administered by an  
24 organization like a business, ISP, college, or university. Each network, in turn, is analogous to an area  
25 code. The network provider maintains a log of IP address allocations. An IP address can be associated  
26 with an organization such as an ISP, business, college, or university, and that organization can identify  
27 the P2P network user associated with the specified IP address.

1           13. MediaSentry finds individuals using P2P networks to share music files over the  
2 Internet. Just as any other user on the same P2P networks as these individuals would be able to do,  
3 MediaSentry is able to detect the infringement of copyrighted works and identify the users' IP  
4 addresses because the P2P software being used by those individuals has file-sharing features enabled.

5           14. For each suspected infringer, MediaSentry downloads a number of the music  
6 files that the individual is offering to other users on the P2P network. Those music files for each such  
7 individual are listed in Exhibit A to the Complaint. MediaSentry assigns an identification number to  
8 each individual for which it detects copyright infringement and gathers additional evidence for each  
9 individual, such as metadata accompanying each file being disseminated that demonstrates that the  
10 user is engaged in copyright infringement. That evidence includes download data files that show for  
11 each music file the source IP address, user logs that include a complete listing of all files in the  
12 individual's share folder at the time, and additional data that track the movement of the files through  
13 the Internet.

14           15. After MediaSentry collects the evidence of infringement, the RIAA engages in a  
15 painstaking process to verify whether each individual was infringing. That process relies on human  
16 review of evidence supporting the allegation of infringement. For each suspected infringer, the RIAA  
17 reviews a listing of the music files that the user has offered for download by others from his or her  
18 computer in order to determine whether they appear to be copyrighted sound recordings. The RIAA  
19 also listens to the downloaded music files from these users in order to confirm that they are, indeed,  
20 illegal copies of sound recordings whose copyrights are owned by RIAA members. Exhibit A to the  
21 Complaint lists the details of these downloaded music files. In my role as Vice President, Anti-Piracy,  
22 I provide oversight over the review of the lists contained in Exhibit A to the Complaint and hereby  
23 attest to the veracity of those lists. The RIAA also reviews the other evidence collected by  
24 MediaSentry.

25                   **The Subpoena Process to Identify Copyright Infringers**

26           16. The RIAA frequently has used the subpoena processes of Federal Rule of Civil  
27 Procedure 45 and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act ("DMCA") to obtain the names of infringers  
28 from ISPs. The RIAA typically has included in their subpoenas to ISPs an IP address and a date and

1 time on which the RIAA, through its agent, MediaSentry, observed use of the IP address in connection  
2 with allegedly infringing activity. In some instances, providing the IP address alone to the ISP has  
3 been enough to enable the ISP to identify the infringer. Providing the date and time further assists  
4 some ISPs in identifying infringers, especially ISPs that use "dynamic IP addressing" such that a single  
5 computer may be assigned different IP addresses at different times, including, for example, each time it  
6 logs into the Internet.<sup>1</sup> Once provided with the IP address, plus the date and time of the infringing  
7 activity, the infringer's ISP quickly and easily can identify the computer from which the infringement  
8 occurred (and the name and address of the subscriber that controls that computer), sometimes within a  
9 matter of minutes.

10 17. Since 1998, the RIAA and others have used subpoenas thousands of times to  
11 learn the names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of infringers for the purpose of  
12 bringing legal actions against those infringers. During a recent litigation with Verizon (an ISP)  
13 relating to the DMCA subpoena process, Verizon conceded that, as an alternative to the DMCA  
14 process, Plaintiffs could file "Doe" lawsuits and issue Rule 45 subpoenas to ISPs to obtain the true  
15 identities of infringing subscribers.

16 **The RIAA's Identification of the Infringers in This Case**

17 18. In the ordinary course of investigating online copyright infringement, the RIAA  
18 became aware that Defendant was offering files for download on various P2P networks. The user-  
19 defined author and title of the files offered for download by Defendant suggested that many were  
20 copyrighted sound recordings being disseminated without the authorization of the copyright owners.  
21 The RIAA downloaded and listened to a representative sample of the music files being offered for  
22 download by Defendant and was able to confirm that the files Defendant was offering for distribution  
23 were illegal copies of sound recordings whose copyrights are owned by RIAA members. The RIAA  
24 also recorded the time and date at which the infringing activity was observed and the IP address  
25 assigned to Defendant at the time. See Complaint Exhibit A. The RIAA could not, however,  
26 determine the physical location of the users or their identities. The RIAA could determine that

27  
28 <sup>1</sup> ISPs own or are assigned certain blocks or ranges of IP addresses. An ISP assigns a particular  
IP address in its block or range to a subscriber when that subscriber goes "online."



1 Defendant was using California State University, Monterey Bay internet service to distribute and make  
2 available for distribution the copyrighted files.

3 19. The RIAA also has collected a list of the files Defendant has made available for  
4 distribution to the public. This list shows hundreds of files, many of which are sound recording (MP3)  
5 files that are owned by, or exclusively licensed to, Plaintiffs. Because of the voluminous nature of the  
6 list, and in an effort not to overburden the Court with paper, I have not attached to this Declaration that  
7 list. Such list will be made available to the Court upon request. Exhibit A to the Complaint includes  
8 the username of the infringer if that was available, the identification number assigned by MediaSentry  
9 for Defendant, and the number of audio files that were being shared by Defendant at the time that the  
10 RIAA's agent, MediaSentry, observed the infringing activity.

11 **The Importance of Expedited Discovery in This Case**

12 20. Obtaining the identity of copyright infringers on an expedited basis is critical to  
13 stopping the piracy of the RIAA members' copyrighted works.

14 21. First, every day that copyrighted material is disseminated without the  
15 authorization of the copyright owner, the copyright owner is economically harmed. Prompt  
16 identification of infringers is necessary in order for copyright owners to take quick action to stop  
17 unlawful dissemination of their works and minimize their economic losses.

18 22. Second, infringement often occurs with respect to sound recordings that have  
19 not yet been distributed publicly. Such infringement inflicts great harm on the initial market for new  
20 works. New recordings generally earn a significant portion of their revenue when they are first  
21 released, and copyright piracy during a recording's pre-release or early release period therefore  
22 deprives copyright owners of an important opportunity to reap the benefits of their labor.

23 23. Third, without expedited discovery, Plaintiffs have no way of serving Defendant  
24 with the complaint and summons in this case. Plaintiffs do not have Defendant's name or address, nor  
25 do they have an e-mail address for Defendant.

26 24. Fourth, and perhaps most critically, ISPs have different policies pertaining to the  
27 length of time they preserve "logs" which identify their users. ISPs keep log files of their user  
28 activities for only limited periods of time – which can range from as short as a few days, to a few

1 months – before erasing the data they contain. If an ISP does not respond expeditiously to a discovery  
2 request, the identification information in the ISP's logs may be erased, making it impossible for the  
3 ISP to determine the identity of the infringer and eliminating the copyright owner's ability to take  
4 action to stop the infringement.

5 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true  
6 and correct.

7 Executed on March 21, 2008 in Washington, D.C.

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10 Carlos Linares  
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